

Nonpublic School Advisory Committee Agenda
December 8, 2015
Grimes State Office Building – State Board Room
1:00 p.m.

Facilitator: David Tilly

Members in Attendance: Kim Hermesen, Merrilee Sump, Wayne Dykstra, Jerry Deegan

Absent: Julie Delaney

Iowa Department of Education Representatives Present: Dave Tilly, Nicole Proesch, Isbelia Arzola, Amy Williamson, Phil Wise, Stephanie Wager, Thomas Mayes, Holly Barnes, Shan Seivert, Kimberly Villotti

Guests Present: Dan Ryan, Lee Morrison, Tracy Bonday, Joan Thompson

Smarter Balanced-SBAC Update (Dave Tilly)

- The law reads there must be a new assessment by May 2017.
- A change in the rules is that assessments will now be on a review cycle so that approximately every 7 years the assessment will be reviewed.
- Currently in the rule making and public hearing process to approve SBAC.
- SBAC is a suite of assessments and resources. There are two kinds of interim assessments (one aligned with summative assessment and one per grade/content sub units aligned with standards). The interim assessments are optional. There is a final assessment to be given within the final 12 weeks of the year. There is a digital library of lesson resources available for teachers.
- Estimated costs are \$28-\$30 per student for grades 3-11 for ELA and Math.
- Is the requirement for a second assessment still required? There has been a federal requirement for multiple measures that was written into Chapter 12. There is not a finalized decision to appeal this item in Chapter 12. The assessment committee will likely need to convene. Likely after January 13, the Department would understand ESSA requirements for additional assessments. The Department is not planning to closely monitor the second assessments for next year due to all of the other new initiatives. The Department may not have a definite answer until after March and could take up to 18 months. The changes in ESSA will likely have more latitude to align assessments with standards.
- What will be required for Science? The NGSS standards were adopted and the Department is looking at possible assessments. The task force is unsure of what is required for next year for science assessments. The committee meets next week to discuss option in the short-term.

Nonpublic Representation (Stefanie Wager & Dave Tilly)

- Deadline is this Friday for a Social Studies standards committee and they have several nonpublic applications. We are hopefully we will have representation.

Title II/Part A (Isbelia Arzola)

- The Department has made several changes in how the title funds are managed and the oversight of the program.
- There were Zoom meetings last year for public schools to receive information on how to administer the program. The quality and participation in these meetings were lackluster.
- Isbelia said public schools were notified that they were to contact our schools with the amounts allotted to our schools for this year.
- We need a list of the unspent funds from 2014-15 and Isbelia will send this to Kim Hermesen following this meeting. Any unspent funds have to be spent by the end of the month.
- The allocations for this year per pupil went up and Isbelia will send to Kim Hermesen following this meeting.
- How will the Department be communicating with the public schools about the process this spring? There is a change in the application process to the Department so they are assuring a consultation has taken place. The consultation process should be taken care of by March 2016. Has this been in the School Leader Update? We are recommending a one-page summary of talking points be provided by the Department about the Title II/Part A funding. The public school Zoom meeting is posted on the Department website.
- The Department will provide specific technical assistance with the reauthorization when it becomes law.

Preschool Certification (Kimberly Villotti)

- A clarification has been made that the Department will not license preschool programs that are not part of the SWVPP, Shared Visions, or programs that have special education students.
- There is a meeting in January between the Department and DHS to clarify PK language.
- This means that a program that exclusively serves 3 year olds, it is recommended we contact DHS for licensure options.
- There is still a “gray” area for 3 year-old PK or 4 year-old PK program that is considered “educationally based” under Department oversight.
- It would be best practice for all PK programs to have some sort of oversight.
- Any questions about DHS programming can go to Ryan Page 515.281.7714.

Special Education (Thomas Mayes)

- Thomas worked through a one-page text of 256.12 “Sharing instructors and services”. This included services, location, and funding.
- Thomas is willing to meet with groups to discuss/explain/answer questions in the future.
- A question was asked about the requirement for consultation requirement with LEA’s. Embedded in 256.12 is the concept of the need for consultation. The focus should be on the order of: Child Find, then FAPE/LRE, and then finances.
- For a future topic we would like more information on consultative services for students.

Differentiated Accountability (Amy Williamson)

- Of the pilot schools, there is a “targeted”, “intensive”, and “universal” list.
- The purpose of this information is to determine which schools need more time and resources.
- Recommendations for schools that don’t currently use TIER/FAST: Currently there is no requirement to use FAST, schools just need to use an approved screener. Anything can be uploaded in TIER, it doesn’t have to be FAST. Dibels or I-STAR could be uploaded in TIER. FAST is free and easy to use. Other screeners may require additional steps/procedure to upload data.
- The draft online of school designations is just based on four data points and ultimately there will be many additional data points that will be used for designations.
- Those identified as “intensive” will get a visit this spring.

Data Update (Jay Pennington)

- It will take until the end of the year to post state averages from 2014-15.
- There has been an entire infrastructure update which has caused delayed information.
- Right now the public reporting piece doesn’t show C-Plans for nonpublic system. The Department will take this into consideration as they rebuild the reporting piece.

Legislative Update (Shan Seivert & Phil Wise)

- Bills have been submitted. Session starts January 12, 2016.
- This Thursday the Revenue Estimating Conference will release their report.

Rule Making Progress (Nicole Proesch)

- Epi-Pen Rule: It has been clarified/narrowed what a school attendance center is (ie: not a bus, etc.). Schools that choose to do this must have two types of doses (different sizes). There is a reporting requirement to provide feedback. There is one more meeting before it will be finalized. Schools may do this once it takes effect, likely by mid-January.
- Summer School Requirement for Public School: The hours have changed from 75 hours to 70 hours. The attendance requirement moved from 75% attendance to 85%. They are also working on an option for approved reading programs (ie: dyslexia) to go to a private provider for which the family pays).

ESSA Reauthorization (Dave Tilly)

- The “Every Child Succeeds Act” will be voted in the Senate tomorrow.
- Two major themes:
 - States have much more authority in deciding assessments and defining sanctions of accountability.
 - The US Dept. of Education power has been lessened. States will be in a stronger bargaining position with the federal government.
 - The Department will have a period of 18 months of trying to define specifics
- What’s in the bill:
 - Reauthorize ESEA for four years.
 - States can choose own standards (Federal government is prohibited from mandating Common Core).
 - States can determine accountability as long as student achievement is at least 51%. Other categories states can choose from: safety, climate, graduation rates, etc.
 - Schools in bottom 5% (once every 3 years) or 67% or less graduation rates will need interventions.
 - Student categories are defined and additional disaggregations are included. (See slides provided by Dave Tilly)
 - Still have to test 3-8th and once in HS for Reading and Math
 - The options for tests is broaden (ie: HS could require everyone take the ACT)
 - Science to be tested 3 times between grades 3-12)
 - States can define their own testing opt-out law.
 - Still 1% cap on alternative assessments remains.
 - There should be a collapsed consultation process with nonpublic---one consultation for ALL federal programs.
 - Block Grants: AP testing, etc. (more latitude)
 - PK funding is going to HHS
 - Title II funding formula is being adjusted somewhat.

- What's not in the bill:
 - AYP (no federal targets of 100%)
 - No highly qualified teacher requirement (we have BOEE-so don't anticipate changes in Iowa).
 - Attendance center rankings are not in ESSA (doesn't apply to nonpublic)
 - No mandates on teacher evaluation (ie: feds can't require schools tie evaluation with student performance)
 - Title I portability didn't get in bill
 - No changes to FERPA, Title I

Next Meeting: February 9, 2016 at 1:00 pm